

DEADLINES *

Letters of Intent

April 15
October 15

Applications

June 15
December 15

* SUBJECT TO CHANGE

QUESTIONS?

Biomedical Laboratory R&D Service (121E)
(202) 254-0498

Clinical Science R&D Service (121E)
(202) 254-0498

Health Services R&D Service (124D)
(202) 254-0219

Rehabilitation R&D Service (122P)
(202) 254-0265

Mailing Address:

Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Research & Development (12)
Att: Career Development Program
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20420

Web Address:

www.research.va.gov



For More Information
www.research.va.gov



Office of Research & Development



Career Development Program



Career Development Program

Award Levels

How To Apply

VA researchers have a long history of scientific achievements that benefit veterans and all Americans—for example, discovering how genes are involved with chronic diseases, inventing lighter and better artificial limbs, demonstrating the value of new medical treatments, and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of health care delivery. VA's Office of Research & Development (ORD) must continue to recruit talented researchers and support them through all stages of their careers in order to foster medical excellence and ingenuity.

VA's Career Development Program (CDP) was established to provide the mentoring for junior VA researchers so that they can learn from renowned, experienced VA researchers. Graduates of this program have become national and international leaders in their research fields. Awards are provided in all areas of VA's research enterprise: biomedical laboratory, clinical science, health services, and rehabilitation research.

The majority of the CDP awards are open to VA and non-VA applicants. To simplify the application process, VA ORD has recently re-designed and streamlined the process through four levels:



Career Development Award 1 (CDA-1)

This award provides a mentored research experience to a limited number of highly qualified clinicians and non-clinicians, especially those working in an area of high priority research. The applicant works closely with mentors on funded research. This award provides up to two years of salary support.

Career Development Award 2 (CDA-2)

This award provides a mentored research experience to highly qualified clinicians and non-clinicians in order to develop into exceptional, independently funded VA researchers. Applicants propose their own research projects and work closely with mentors to complete and publish project findings. The award may range from 3- to 5-years in duration, including salary support and project funds.

Career Development Transition Award (CDTA)

This award, open to clinician researchers only, supports clinicians in the transition to become independently funded VA research scientists. It provides salary support for up to three years.

Career Development Enhancement Award (CDEA) *(for VA employees only)*

Open to all senior VA clinician and non-clinician scientists, this award provides up to six months of salary support for educational leave to learn new research skills. This enables scientists to enhance their research careers.



The CDP is open to all scientists, both MD's and PhD's, who have the appropriate experience and training as stated in the eligibility section of the CDP Handbook. Program guidelines, relevant resources, instructions, and application forms are available on our website at <http://www1.va.gov/resdev/funding/CDP.cfm>.

In general, if one is interested in the CDP, the process usually begins when an applicant contacts the local VA research office and identifies a VA scientist who is willing to be a primary mentor. The applicant should work closely with the local research office to prepare a Letter of Intent (LOI) which is used to determine whether an applicant meets CDP eligibility criteria, to establish the appropriate level of award for the applicant, and to plan for the expertise needed to review the application. Once the LOI is approved, the applicant prepares an application in accordance with CDP guidelines. The local VA research office must submit the application on behalf of the applicant.